

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4988388 A

TITLE: Free-flowing guayule resin and bagasse mixtures and their use as fuel or soil amendent

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BSPR:

As noted above guayule resin can be obtained by extraction from guayule plants with oxygenated solvents such as acetone, ethyl acetate, tetrahydrofuran and the like) as shown for example in U.S. Pat. Nos. 2,744,125, 2,572,046 and 4,376,853, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference for its disclosures relating to the production of guayule resin. Means for obtaining guayule bagasse are also well known to those in the arts. See, for example, U.S. Pat. No. 4,681,929 to Cole et al., which is hereby incorporated by reference for its disclosures in this regard. Often the bagasse obtained from these processes has a particulate size or an average bulk density which allows it to be used directly in the mixtures of this invention. Bulk densities of less than about 250 to 350 kilograms per cubic meter (ASTM method D-1895-69, method B) are generally useful in the compositions of this invention.

Unextracted, ground guayule shrub material can also be used in the resin coated products of this invention. In such cases the fibers plant material are fed to a hammer mill, single-disk attrition (pulp) mill, or a ball mill where they are reduced to a particular size of approximately 10-15 mm or less, preferably a particle size of 1-3 mm or less. This shredding or grinding can be carried out on whole plant. Alternatively the plants can be defoliated by removal of leaves before or after communitation. Of course, the ground plant material can be subjected further to simultaneous action of compressive and shear forces as for example by means of differential roll mill or extruder. Similarly guayule bagasse obtained as a residue from various guayule processing techniques, if not already of the desired size, can be converted into particles of the desired size or of the desired bulk density by techniques such as these.

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5656129 A

TITLE: Method of producing fibers from a straw and board products made therefrom

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DEPR:

After the straw bales have been broken down to eliminate wires, strings, and other foreign objects, the straw is provided to a cutter or slicer 14 which slices or cuts the straw to a length of, preferably, between about two inches and about four inches. The slicer 14 may comprise a hammermill or other similar type of machine which forces the straw, via high impaction pressure, through a cutting screen. However, any other desired straw cutter can be used as the slicer 14.

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